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The Arizona Legislature this last session passed H.B.2661, which created the Water Resources Development Commission for the purpose of assessing the current and future water needs of Arizona. The Legislature tasked the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources to appoint a Water Resources Development Commission, whose members must possess knowledge about various water resource and water management issues in Arizona and represent a regional and geographic cross-section of the state. Director Herb Guenther serves as the Chairman.

The Water Resources Development Commission is will:

- Compile and consider the projected water needs of each Arizona county in the next 25, 50 and 100 years;
- Identify and quantify the water supplies currently available in each county;
- Identify potential water supplies to meet additional demands in the next 25, 50 and 100 years and the legal and technical issues associated with using those supplies;
- Identify potential mechanisms for financing the acquisition, treatment and delivery of water supplies; and
- Make recommendations regarding further studies and evaluations.

The Commission will be aided in this work by technical staff from ADWR, CAP, the Arizona Water Banking Authority and rural water study groups, with a final report of findings and recommendations due October 1, 2011.